

CHRISTMAS AT THE WHITWORTH HALL 1PM, 18 DECEMBER 2024

♪ Puer natus in Bethlehem – Library Choir soloists

All (please stand when you hear the organ): O Come all ye faithful

Welcome by Rachel Kirkwood, Quaker Chaplain

♪ Silent Night – Wellbeing Choir, led by Ian Gifford

♪ Christmas in LA – Wellbeing Choir

📖 Reading from Isaiah – read by Omolade Allen, Christian Chaplain

All: It came upon a midnight clear

📖 Reading from John 1 – read by Shirley Jenner, Staff Christian Association

All: O Little Town of Bethlehem

♪ I wonder as I wander – Ian and Rachel

📖 Poetry by Lemn Sissay – read by Sabina Hawthornthwaite, MIB One Voice choir

★ For donations to Lemn's Christmas Dinner please use this link <https://give.manchester.ac.uk/p/christmasdinners/>

All: Hark the Herald angels sing

♪ We wish you a merry Christmas

A special thankyou to our organist Philip Lowe

Join us! Wellbeing Choir gail.heathcote-milner@manchester.ac.uk | MIB One Voice Michiyo.sakuma@manchester.ac.uk | Staff Christian Network Shirley.jenner@manchester.ac.uk | Quakers and Seekers (staff network group) Rachel.Kirkwood@manchester.ac.uk

You can listen to more poetry (and prose) if you search Naxos Spoken Word in the Library Catalogue, and there is plenty of poetry and reading for pleasure and wellbeing if you search for the Libby app in the catalogue.

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore Him;

O come, let us adore Him;

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

2. Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;

sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!

Glory to God, in the highest! [Refrain]

3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born that happy morning;

Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

1. O little town of Bethlehem,

how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep_ their watch of wond'ring love.

3. How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!

So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.

No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him, still_ the dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuell

1. It came upon the midnight clear,

that glorious song of old,

from angels bending near the earth

to touch their harps of gold:

“Peace on the earth, good will to men,

from heaven's all-gracious King.”

The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,

and still their heavenly music floats

o'er all the weary world;

above its sad and lowly plains,

they bend on hovering wing,

and ever o'er its Babel sounds

the blessed angels sing.

3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife

The world has suffered long;

Beneath the angel strain have rolled

Two thousand years of wrong;

And man, at war with man, hears not

The love-song which they bring;

Oh, hush the noise, ye men of strife

And hear the angels sing.

4. For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet seen of old,

when with the ever-circling years

shall come the time foretold

when peace shall over all the earth

its ancient splendours fling,

and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,

“Glory to the newborn King:

peace on earth, and mercy mild,

God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,

join the triumph of the skies;

with th'angelic hosts proclaim,

“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! the herald angels sing,

“Glory to the newborn King”

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,

Christ, the everlasting Lord,

late in time behold him come,

offspring of the Virgin's womb:

veiled in flesh the Godhead see;

hail th'incarnate Deity,

pleased with us in flesh to dwell,

Jesus, our Immanuel.

Hark! the herald angels sing,

“Glory to the newborn King”

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings,

risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by,

born that we no more may die,

born to raise us from the earth,

born to give us second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing,

“Glory to the newborn King”